



1761

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Patent application of : Attorney Docket:
Scott W. Huffer, *et al* : 9325-49 (149169)
Serial No.: 09/826,236 : Group Art Unit:
Filed: April 4, 2001 : 1761
For: LAMINATE FOR GUM PACKAGING : Examiner:
: Not Yet Assigned

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#4**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
and CHANGE OF ATTORNEY ADDRESS**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, the Applicants attach hereto a completed PTO Form 1449 (modified) and copies of the information cited therein. This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first office action on the merits with regard to the above-referenced application. Therefore, no certification, petition or fee is required. However, if a fee is due, please charge, or credit any overcharge to, Deposit Account No. 50-0573.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below, with sufficient postage, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

BY John E. FloresDATE: May 21, 2001

The following references are noted as being potentially relevant to the subject matter of the present application.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,436,073 to Williams, et al. discloses a multi-layer composite laminate suitable for preparing release sheets or pressure sensitive adhesive sheets for use in packaging. The composite has a paper substrate on to which a radiation curable acrylic compound is applied, possibly using offset gravure techniques. The patent discloses that the acrylic compound is preferably curable using electron beam radiation. A polyolefin film, most preferably polyethylene, is extruded onto the other side of the paper substrate. The basic structure of the composite is therefore, in order, radiation curable coating, paper, and polyolefin. A second embodiment disclosed by the patent includes the three layers of the first and further includes a radiation-curable silicone release composition bonded to the polyolefin opposite the paper. A third embodiment disclosed by the patent substitutes a pressure sensitive adhesive for the silicone release layer.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,725,909 to Shaw, et al. discloses a thermoplastic packaging material with low oxygen permeability. The material is coated with a crosslinked acrylic layer and is further provided with a layer of oxygen barrier material, which may be silicon oxide, aluminum oxide or metal. The acrylic layer may be a polymerization product of an acrylic monomer which is evaporated in a vacuum, condensed on the substrate and polymerized by irradiation of ultraviolet or an electron beam. The surface of the substrate is prepared for deposition by flame treatment or plasma treatment.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,376,388 to Meyers describes a method of packaging chewing gum. The method involves providing a stick of chewing gum with a coating of edible material that provides sufficient vapor barrier properties such that the gum has a more stable moisture content than a stick of gum without the coating. The coated sticks of gum are then packaged in wrappers that have no metal foil.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,693,385 to Parks discloses an odor absorbing packaging material for food. The patent states that, although not preferred, electron beam cured solid binders can be used to form the packaging material. The electron beam cured materials are not preferred because the low molecular weight compounds used as starting materials may contaminate the odor sorbing material.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,490,409 to Nablo discloses a process and apparatus for decorating the surfaces of electron beam cured coatings on substrates such as plastic. A radiation sensitive substrate is provided with an electron beam curable adhesive as it is fed toward an electron beam irradiation station. A release layer, consisting of a web metallized with a decorative layer, is pressed against the substrate such that the decorative metal deposition contacts the electron beam curable adhesive. The combined unit is run through an electron beam, thereby affixing the decorative metal deposition to the substrate via the electron cured adhesive.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,989,377 to Wilhelm et al. discloses an electron beam cured polyester film for use in protecting copper foil during the lamination of circuit boards.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,237,843 to Reed et al. discloses a laminate for packaging formed from foil laminated to paper through a polyethylene bonding medium. The structure of the laminate therefore is paper, polyethylene, and foil.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,783,266 to Gehrke discloses hermetically sealed individual wrappers for sticks of chewing gum. The outer layer of the wrapper is polyester, oriented polypropylene, or paper. The core or barrier layer may be foil or a metallized web. The inner layer is polyethylene or another polyolefin or copolymer which can form a heat seal.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,001,397 to Boyd et al. discloses a wrapper for chewing gum. The patent states that the wrapper may be made of a substrate, (e.g. paper, foil or polyfilm), and a barrier, (e.g. aluminum, silicon dioxide, etc.).

The remaining U.S. Patents identified on the attached PTO 1449 form and listed below are considered to be of secondary interest as relating generally to packaging or energy curable coatings, and are at best cumulative of those discussed above.

1,272,004	2,140,748	4,381,322	5,562,994
1,275,904	2,301,997	4,522,887	5,741,505
2,008,361	3,106,333	5,048,260	5,885,630
2,079,328	4,082,594	5,540,916	6,010,724

It is requested that the Examiner review the references identified above and on the 1449 form and make them of record in the instant application as required by M.P.E.P. § 609. It is also requested that the Examiner initial the enclosed duplicate substitute form 1449 and return one copy to the Applicants' undersigned representative.

CHANGE OF ATTORNEY ADDRESS

Please be aware that the Attorney for Applicant has changed his address; please direct all communications to the address or telephone number listed below. Please adjust the Patent Office records relevant to this application accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,

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